



## Flight Crew Public Health Alert Measles

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**Overview** Germany and other countries participating in the World Cup are experiencing measles outbreaks. Most U.S. travelers are already immune to measles. Still, you may encounter persons with measles.

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**Measles** Measles is a highly contagious illness transmitted through the air when infected people cough or sneeze. For more information, visit the following CDC website:  
(<http://www.cdc.gov/nip/diseases/measles>).

If a passenger exhibits or reports a fever AND one or more of the following symptoms of measles, follow the guidance below.

- a red, raised rash that starts on the face and moves to arms, legs, and body
- cough
- runny nose
- red eyes

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**What to do with an ill passenger**

- Offer a surgical mask to the passenger.
- Move the passenger as far away from others as possible.
- Ask the passenger to cover his/her mouth with a tissue when coughing or sneezing.
- Ask the passenger to wash his/her hands with soap and water (or an alcohol-based hand gel) especially after coughing or sneezing.

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**Reporting procedures** Federal regulations [42 CFR Part 71.21(b)] require captains of aircraft destined for a U.S. airport to report any death or serious illness among passengers.

1. Immediately inform the captain of the illness.
2. The captain will call the Operational Control Center (OCC).
3. The OCC will contact the nearest CDC Quarantine Station, Emergency Medical Service (EMS), and the airline's medical office or passenger health services.
4. If OCC cannot contact the nearest Quarantine Station, OCC will contact the CDC Quarantine Duty Officer at 866-694-4867.
5. After the plane lands, CDC Quarantine Station staff and/or EMS may board the plane and evaluate the ill passenger. At this time, CDC may also collect passenger contact information.

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**Staff info** As a member of the flight crew, you should be aware of your own immunization status. You are most likely protected from measles if you

- were born in the United States before 1957,
- have had measles, or
- have had 2 doses of measles or MMR vaccine.

If you are uncertain of your immune status and think you were exposed to measles, consult your health-care provider.



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